

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 42 were pending in the application at the time of examination. The Examiner rejected Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness double patenting over Claims 1 to 34 of U.S. Patent number 6,502,419. The Examiner objected to Claims 14 to 16 and 34 to 36 for being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants submit herewith a properly executed "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent" under 37 C.F.R. 1.321 (C).

Claims 1 to 42 remain in the Application.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1 TO 13, 17 TO 33, AND 37 TO 42

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness double patenting over Claims 1 to 34 of U.S. Patent number 6,502,419.

Applicants submit herewith a properly executed "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent" under 37 C.F.R. 1.321 (C).

In light of the submission of "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent", Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness double patenting over Claims 1 to 34 of U.S. Patent number 6,502,419 and allow Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 to issue.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 14 TO 16 AND 34 TO 36

The Examiner objected to Claims 14 to 16 and 34 to 36 for being dependent on a rejected base claim.

Applicants submit herewith a properly executed "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent" under 37 C.F.R. 1.321 (C).

In light of the submission of "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent", Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness double patenting over Claims 1 to 34 of U.S. Patent number 6,502,419 and allow Claims 1 to 13, 17 to 33, and 37 to 42 to issue.

Claims 14 to 16 depend, directly or indirectly on Claim 1 and Claims 34 to 36 depend, directly or indirectly on Claim 23. Therefore Claims 14 to 16 and 34 to 36 include all of the features and limitations of parent Claims 1 and 23, respectively. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that in light of the submission of "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Double Patenting Rejection Over A 'Prior' Patent", Claims 14 to 16 and 34 to 36 are now in condition for allowance and Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the objection to Claims 14 to 16 and 34 to 36 and allow these claims to issue.

Appl. No. 10/611,568
Amdt. dated October 29, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2004

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicants.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 29, 2004.


Attorney for Applicant(s)

October 29, 2004
Date of Signature

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